01696

1994/04/02

BEIJIN 10344 020338Z PAGE 01

ACTION EAP-01

ACDA-17 ACDE-00 AID-01 AMAD-01 CIAE-00 C-01 INFO LOG-00 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 HA-09 OASY-00 DODE-00 EB-01 ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02 PA-01 L-01 IO-16 STR-01 TRSE-00 SP-00 SR-00 SS-00 P-01 PRS-01

USIE-00 RPE-01 /056W

----374DFA 020339Z /38

O 020339Z APR 94

FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9165 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO AMCONSUL SHANGHAI AMCONSUL SHENYANG AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU AMCONSUL HONG KONG AMCONSUL CHENGDU

() RELEASE () DECLASSIFY 09 DECLASSIFY (X) EXCISE () DENY IN PART FOIA Exemptions PA Exemptions

EO Citations () CLASSIFY &B () S or () C

() DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C

'EIJING 010344

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PHUM, CH

SUBJECT: WEI JINGSHENG INTERROGATED AGAIN

REF: BEIJING 10115, BEIJING 7248

ENTIRE TEXT. 1.

2. WEI JINGSHENG WAS "SUMMONED FOR QUESTIONING" BY POLICE ON APRIL 1

B6

THE IS

PAGE 02 BEIJIN 10344 020338Z APPARENTLY STILL IN CUSTODY.

3. COMMENT: WE SUSPECT THAT WEI'S DETENTION IS TEMPORARY, AND THAT SECURITY FORCES WANT TO PRESSURE HIM TO CURTAIL HIS PUBLIC ACTIVITIES NOW THAT HE HAS RETURNED TO BEIJING. IT MAY ALSO BE CONNECTED TO THE PRESENCE OF AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER GARETH EVANS IN BEIJING FROM APRIL 1-3. ALTHOUGH WEI'S ORIGINAL PRISON SENTENCE, AND THEREFORE PAROLE, IS APPARENTLY OVER, HE IS STILL SUBJECT TO AN ORDER DEPRIVING HIM OF HIS POLITICAL RIGHTS FOR AN

ADDITIONAL THREE YEARS. WHILE OUR (ADMITTEDLY INEXPERT) READING OF CHINESE LAW INDICATES DEPRIVATION OF POLITICAL RIGHTS RESTRICTS ONLY THE RIGHT TO VOTE AND RECEIVE GOVERNMENT BENEFITS, THE GOVERNMENT IS USING THIS TO FORMALLY WARN JOURNALISTS THAT THEY CANNOT INTERVIEW HIM. WHEN JOURNALISTS ASKED A FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN CONFIDENTIAL

WHETHER DIPLOMATS COULD INTERVIEW WEI, THEY WERE TOLD NOT TO ASK IRRELEVANT QUESTIONS.

NNNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification ***